the vertimes

News for the People in Montgomery County Government

January/February 2002



County Honors Its Best - Eric Wallmark, Human Resources, was a recipient for an Award for Exceptional Service at the second annual Montgomery's Best Honor Awards program held in November. Pictured above is (I to r): Director of Human Resources Marta Perez, County Council Member Blair Ewing, Wallmark, and County Executive Douglas M. Duncan. (See pages 4 and 5 for complete story.)

Duncan Establishes Community Caring Fund

There has been a tremendous outpouring of generosity in response to the September 11 tragedies. At the same time, contributions to traditional community charities are lower than in years past. In an effort to relieve the pinch felt by local charities, County Executive Douglas M. Duncan, at his annual State of the County speech in December, announced the establishment of the Community Caring Fund.

The proceeds from the Community Caring Fund will go directly to the many community charities in Montgomery County that provide care for those in need.

"The many charities in our county that assist those in need are now in need them-

selves," said Duncan. "These non-profits are the heart and soul of our community, each day providing for the most vulnerable among us."

> In mid-December, BAE SYSTEMS an international systems defense and aerospace contractor with local facilities in Rockville, Gaithersburg and Silver Spring—helped to jumpstart the new fund by presenting the Executive with a check for \$10,000.

Anyone wishing to support the newly-established fund may send donations to: Community Caring Fund, c/o Montgomery County United Way, 15245 Shady Grove Rd., Rockville, MD 20850.

Seleznow Tapped To Head County's Workforce Investment Board

Eric Seleznow, formerly the workforce manager for the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation, was recently appointed director of the County's Workforce Investment Board, an arm of the County's Department of Economic Development that is responsible for guiding efforts to develop a well-prepared, educated and adaptable workforce.

Seleznow has been serving as the interim director since last October when the board was reorganized. With more than 20 years experience in developing and implementing workforce programs for Correction and Rehabilitation, Seleznow has worked extensively with local businesses to create training programs and expand job opportunities for rehabilitated offenders. He served on the local Workforce Investment Board for more than five years.

Overtimes Now Available Online Only

Due to cut made during consideration of the fiscal year '02 budget, the Public Information Office will no longer distribute any printed versions of the Overtimes. It will be available online only at http://www.co.mo.md.us/overtimes, or on the Intranet (http://portal.mcgov.org or 172.29.4.17) which will also provide back issues for reference. For convenience, bookmark these addresses.

Departments and agencies that have employees who do not have Internet or Intranet access should try to make hard copies available.

Overheard On the Elevator

Congratulations to DAEDRA CARRIO CONNERS and MIKE CONNERS, both of Correction & Rehabilitation, on the birth of their son, Brendan, born October 30.

County Executive DOUGLAS M. DUNCAN received the 2001 Elizabeth and David Scull Memorial Public Service Award from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. The award is presented annually to a local elected official to recognize outstanding governmental contributions to the Washington area at the metropolitan level.

Welcome to PAUL E. FOLKERS, recently appointed Assistant Chief Administrative Officer. Folkers comes to Montgomery County from Martin County, FL, where he served as Assistant County Administrator since May 2000. Prior to that he worked for the City of Gaithersburg as Deputy City Manager.

In Memoriam

Fern Solomon, who retired from the Department of Public Libraries in 1992, died of cardiac arrest on December 26.

Solomon began her career with Montgomery County in 1968 as a children's librarian at the Davis Library in Bethesda. She later transferred to the Rockville library and directed the telephone reference staff there from 1982 until her retirement.

She is survived by her husband Robert, three daughters and seven grandchildren.

th Overtimes

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> Sue Tucker, Editor 240/777-6530

GET-IN and Get A Break

Did you know about the transit benefits Montgomery County Government offers its employees through the GET-IN program? By participating in the program, employees may be eligible to obtain a \$35 monthly subsidy for commuting to work by public transportation or vanpool.

GÉT-IN – Government Employee Transit Incentives program – was established in 1985 as a transportation incentive program for Montgomery County government employees. To join, employees turn in their parking permits and receive a GET-IN membership card. Cards are available from Transit Services, located on the 5th floor of the EOB. The GET-IN

card allows employees to purchase, at a discount, Metrorail farecards and passes, Metrobus flash passes or tokens, or MARC commuter rail tickets. Registered vanpool participants can receive a \$35 metrochek to offset the cost of monthly vanpool fees.

If leaving work in an emergency is a concern, an additional benefit to the GET-IN program is the Guaranteed Ride Home Provision. The employee's department will reimburse the GET-IN participant for taxi or transit fares in the case of an emergency.

For more information about this program, call the Division of Transit Services at 240-777-5863.

Translation Directory Available Online

A new translation resource directory—Language Links, A Directory of Translation Resources for Montgomery County Employees—is now available both in hard copy and on the Intranet (http://portal.mcgov.org/). Some of the resources included in this guide are The Volunteer Center's Language Bank;

outside translation vendors; and sign language interpreters.

To access the directory on the Intranet click on the tab at the left of the page that says "Language Links." Hard copies can be ordered directly from the Print Shop on the terrace level of the Judicial Center.



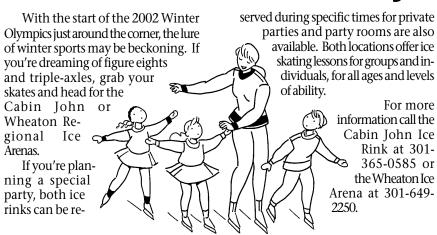
February is Black History Month

Kick Off ceremony on

Thursday, February 7, 7–9 p.m. Executive Office Building Cafeteria

Entertainment provided by Tappers With Attitude, Inc.

Area Ice Rinks Offer Fun for the Whole Family



Thanksgiving in February

On Tuesday, February 5th, more than 115 local restaurants will donate 10 percent of their proceeds to Montgomery County's hunger relief effort. The Thanksgiving in February program, now in its15th year, is sponsored by the Community Ministry of Montgomery County in association with numerous other agencies.

Employees can help by patronizing a participating establishment for breakfast, lunch

or dinner. At the end of the day, proceeds will be divided among 11 non-profit agencies in the County that provide food for the needy. Some of the participating restaurants in the Rockville area include Bombay Bistro, Hard Times Café, O'Brien's Pit Barbeque and Taste of Saigon.

For a listing of participating restaurants, call the Community Ministry of Montgomery County at 301-762-8682.

Winter Weather Information

Up-To-Date Status on County Government

During winter weather emergencies, tune in to the County government cable television channel – County Cable Montgomery on channel 6. The County's channel carries the latest information on County government openings, closings or delays; the status of programs, activities and public

schools; Ride On bus routes and the condition of County roads and highways.

Every morning – between the hours of 4:30 and 9 a.m., and every afternoon between 3 and 6 p.m. – the Advanced Traffic Management Center of the Department of Public Works and Transportation will offer up-to-the-minute information on what's happening around the County.

Blood Drive February 6

There is always someone in need of blood. Please help the Red Cross help those in need of the "gift of life" by scheduling an appointment to donate blood on February 6 between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The blood drive will be

held in the EOB Lobby Auditorium. Employees are eligible for up to three hours of administrative leave with prior approval from their supervisor. Call Occupational Medical Services at 240-777-5155 to schedule an appointment.

HR Notes

Office of Human Resources

Student Verification

In mid-February, OHR will send letters requesting verification of student status for the spring semester for dependents aged 19-25 enrolled in County group insurance plans. Send us documentation along with the letter (so we know which student belongs to which employee). If documentation is not submitted, we'll assume that your dependent is no longer a full-time student, and the dependent will be dropped from County coverage effective 3/31/02. We will then mail a COBRA notice to your home address.

Committee Requests Input

The Diversity Planning Committee would like suggestions for improving the County's diversity celebration. What would encourage you to attend and participate in the program? Please e-mail your ideas and suggestions for a the me and/or activities to margie.roher@co.mo.md.us by March 1. A special prize will be awarded to the person recommending the selected theme. To join the committee, call 240-777-2723.

Flexible Spending Account Claims for 2001

Claims for reimbursement of dependent care or health care expenses for 2001 must be received by FlexAmerica no later than March 31.

Job Information Line

Employees interested in learning about transfer opportunities may call OHR's Employee Job Information Line at 240-777-5121. The recorded information on this line is updated every Friday. Questions about this service? Call OHR at 240-777-5000.

Training Opportunities

Check OHR's Resource Library for training opportunities from January through June 2002. Employees can access this site from work at the following Intranet address: http://portal.mcgov.org/ohr. From home, the site can be accessed through the Internet at http://www.emontgomery.org/ohr/index_frameset.htm. Paper copies of the training calendar are available in departments and in OHR, on the 7^{th} floor of the EOB.

Open Season for Deferred Compensation

Take advantage of the March open season to enroll in the County's Deferred Compensation Plan, change your contribution amount, change providers, or add a second provider. For more information, call Fidelity Investments at 1-800-430-2363 or The Hartford at 1-800-243-7782, X207. For forms and provider packets, visit OHR, EOB 7th floor.

MYRTLE BEACH RENTAL – two bdr., two bath, Jacuzzi tub, sleeps 8. Perfect for multi-family vacation. One week available during 2002. Call 301-509-0238.

TIMESHARE FOR SALE/ RENT – Sedona, AZ. Sleeps 6-8, all amenities. Enjoy

hiking, horsebackriding, and a breathtaking view of the Red Rocks. A couple of hours from the Grand Canyon. Call 301-213-7357 or 301-384-0677, eves.

FURNITURE – black leather sofa, love seat, chair & ottoman, \$1,300/best offer. Also, large all wood executive desk and credenza, \$1,100/best offer. All in excellent condition. Call Ben, 301-963-3719.

FOR SALE – Pennsylvania House wing chair, powder blue w/cherry Queen Anne legs, \$200. Original etching (Gathering Storm, by Kathleen Cantin) in cherry frame w/coordinating mat, \$100. Diamond 1/3 ct. engagement ring w/matching wedding band in brushed gold setting, \$500. Full-length red satin dress w/chantilly lace overlay & flounce, size 6, \$50. Call Bonnie Bigenho, 240-777-2491.

Backpage Bargains

County employees may submit ads, non-commercial only, with name and home and office phone number to Information Office, 4th floor, EOB. **Ads may appear one time only**. Deadline for the next issue is, February 28, 2002.

FOR SALE – two laptops w/CD ROM, Windows, modems, AOL loaded, one IBM ThinkPad, \$499, one Toshiba Satellite Pro, \$499. Plus, laptop bags, \$35-40 ea. Total Gym equipment, \$600/best offer. Three Direct TV boxes, \$40 ea. Epson Stylus printer, and Kodak printer, \$400 ea. Two Casio digital cameras, \$125 ea. Call Linda, 240-777-6880 or 301-601-0676, oremail Holland02@aol.com.

FOR SALE – Weslo exercycle, \$25. Brother electric typewriter, \$15. Set of cookware, never used, \$5-7 per piece. Also, Braun coffee mill, books, baby clothes, decorative vases. Call Sheila O'Connor, 240-777-1573.

FOR SALE – bar size refrigerator/freezer, like new. Magic Chef, white, interior measures 16"x16"x30". Call Jill Stutz, 301-929-8021.

FOR SALE – ping pong table, excellent condition. \$50. Call Cathy, 240-777-5430.

FOR SALE – Delta 8-inch jointer, floor model in good condition. \$385/best offer. Call Jack, 240-777-6825 or 301-989-4664, eves.

WEIGHT BENCH - Im-

age 4.0 Olympic & standard weight carriages, bench press/pull-up station, upper & lower pulley attachments. \$250/best offer. Call Don, 301-916-1640.

STEREO SPEAKERS – Genesis floor speakers with great sound. \$20 for pair. Call Tom, 240-777-7150.

CAMERA – Canon A-1 35mm camera w/case and manual. \$250/best offer. Call Donald, 301-916-1640.

WIZARD TICKETS – two lower level seats. Good games still available. Best offer. Call Angela, 301-468-4200 ext. 3407 or 240-731-6425.

WANTED—used travel trailer in the 24–30 ft. range. Age not as important as condition and price. Call Gary, 301-279-1274 or 301-216-3081.

Montgomery's Best Honor Awards

County Executive Douglas M. Duncan and Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Romer recently hosted the second annual honor awards ceremony for employees. The prestigious awards recognize exceptional efforts on the part of individuals, teams and organizations to support the County's guiding principles and programs.

The program, consisting of seven different award categories, recognized a total of 151 individual and group recipients this year. The highest honor, the Award for Exceptional Service, recognized the highest level of outstanding government service and exemplary support of County or department programs and mission. The Employee of the Year Awards went to employees nominated by their department based on criteria established by each department in support of the County's guiding principles. County employees who serve as local union officials

were recognized for superior contributions with the Employee Representative of the Year Award. The Customer Service Award was granted to an individual or team of County employees or volunteers who provided customer service far and above that normally required. The County Partnership Award recognized an individual or team of County employees or volunteers who developed a collaborative relationship with intergovernmental partners, or private sector individuals or organizations. Employees or volunteers whose efforts significantly promoted the County's guiding principal on diversity were awarded the County Diversity Award. And, finally the Executive's Safety Award was presented to departments with the best percentage improvement over the previous fiscal year in their occupational injury/illness claim rates involving monetary loss.

Awards for Exceptional Service

John J. O'Donnell, DPWT Cynthia L. Brenneman, DPWT Marc P. Hansen, County Attorney's Office Eric Wallmark, OHR Det. Scott C. Loomis, Police P.O. III William L. Bickle, Police Kathleen G. Henning, DFRS Lt. William H. Lanham, Police

Employee of the Year Awards

Debra H. Jones, DPWT Carol M. Rollins, OHR Viviana Azar, HHS Jeff Marks, DPWT

Employee Representative of the Year Awards

Amy A. Davis, IAFF Mary Louise Palm, MCGEO M.P.O. Michael B. Willis, FOP

Executive's Safety Awards

Department of Correction & Rehabilitation Department of Health & Human Services

Customer Service Awards (Individual)

Nancy A. Nickerson, Police Firefighter/Rescuer II Anibal "Pete" Andreallo, DFRS Diane M. Davis, DEP P.O. III Denise Gill, Police

Customer Service Award (**Group**)

Work Force Leader II Team, DPWT Angel DeJesus Gary Edwards Howard Foreman Warren Graham George Hane Chester Haynes Douglas Jones James Kisner Louis Machetto Richard Martin

See, **Best Awards**, on page 5

Best Awards

Continued from page 4

Robert Moore Donald Noble Sharkey Poole Donald Raines Robert Shifflett Gregory Shipley Albert Smith

Kenneth Thompson Glen Tolson

James Webb

Customer Service Award (Group)

Community Outreach Section, Police David Baker P.O. III George Hackey P.O. III Luis Hurtado P.O. III Sandy Redmon



Customer Service Award (**Group**)

Print Shop Team, DPWT Joe Bovello Janet Hardy Gary Markwood Greg Swartz Richard Taylor Gary Tillman Tommy Tucker Ed van den Heuvel Elizabeth VanNort

County Partnership Award (Group)

Preserving Affordable Housing, HCA Ralph Bennett Gary Campbell Joseph T. Giloley Robert Goldman Mary Ann Henderson Stephanie E. Killian John Shanley Leslie Steen

County Partnership Award (Group)

Alcohol Initiatives Section, Police Alison Ash P.O. III Richard Burge Kathie Durbin Lt. David Falcinelli Carol Kempner Cristyn Krause
P.O. III William Morrison
Michael Nagy
P.O. III Linda Neudorfer
Monty Pyburn
Nancy Rea
Jeff Salisbury
Lisa Schrader
Dan Shea
Dennis Theoharis

County Partnership Award (Group)

Mercy Clinic Team, HHS Isabel Cassen Elaine Hurd Carol Jordan Doreen Kelly Lois Kietur Alvina Long

County Partnership Award (Group)

Scotland Partnership for Excellence – Erasing the Digital Divide, HHS

P.O. III Paul Barker Alicia Beach Halverstadt

Joan Benz Kay Bowman Jeff Burton Tony Edgehill Patti Goldberg

Jonathan Jones Bill Lynch

Emily McDonell Gail Nachman

Charlene Nunley Jerry Oglesby

Ervin Owens Michelle Owens

Police Cmdr. Luther Reynolds

Rick Robinson Patricia Saunders Bette Thompson

Monique Ware



County Partnership Award (Group)

Child Passenger Safety Task Force, HCA Julia Alkire Linda Arapian

Emilie Crown

Monty Crown William Delaney Jack Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Auto Pam Fox Brian Green Jon Heiderich Gary Jenkins Evan Johnson John Lehman Debra Levine Kenneth A. Matney Anne May Lynn McCreary Therese Pelicano Veronica Ramirez Sue Rogan Rob Smith Margo Stanton Jim Streight Myriam Torrico Mary Whalen

County Partnership Award (Group)

Kathy Wood

Paratransit/HOC Outreach, DPWT, HOC Todd Thompson Linda A. Whitcomb Anne Warner Linda Warren

County Partnership Award (**Group**)

Condemned Home Replacement, HCA Linda Bird Joseph T. Giloley Steven Morris Robert Parks, Jr. Linowes & Blocher Frederick Titus Lee Weston

County Diversity Award

MFF Dorcus Howard, DFRS

County Diversity Award (Group)

Adult Mental Health Multicultural Program, HHS

Viviana Azar
Peggy Bradley
Lidia Carnota-Cohen
Cecilia Del Rio
Iris Ysern-Gonzales
Diep Le
Michael R. MacKenzie
Patricia Montes
Thu-Nhut Nguyen
Guillermo Olivos
Amalia Salazar
My Luong Vo